



H.RES. 1261 – CONGRATULATING EAST HIGH SCHOOL IN DENVER, COLORADO, ON WINNING THE 2008 'WE THE PEOPLE: THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION' NATIONAL COMPETITION

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1261 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Diana DeGette (D-CO) on June 10, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1261 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on July 15, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 1261 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Congratulates the East High School team on winning the 2008 'We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution' national competition;
- Recognizes the academic accomplishments of Isabel Breit, Nicholas Brown, Maya Burchette, Nitai Deitel, Gideon Hertz, Gideon Irving, Katherine Jablonski, Gavin Jacobs, Noah Kaplan, Brendan Lamarre, Zachary Lass, Alexandria Leenatali, Richard Londer, Nathan Mackenzie, Rebecca Nathanson, Alyse Opatowski, Marley Pierce, Alyssa Roberts, Paige Romer, Hayley Round, Ryan Saunders, Lindsay Shields, Jeffrey Thalhoffer, Shaquille Turner, Charlotte Vilkus, Taylor Want, and Jacob Zax;
- Recognizes the guidance and commitment of coach Susan McHugh;
- Recognizes the work of Loyal Darr, 'We the People' coordinator for Colorado's First District; and
- Directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to transmit a copy of this resolution to Denver School District Superintendent Michael Bennet and coach Susan McHugh for appropriate display.

BACKGROUND

The 'We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution' is a nationwide competition for upper elementary, middle, and high school students intending to enhance their understanding of the history and principles of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. The national championship competition is held annually in Washington D.C., and is sponsored by the Center for Civic Education.

To qualify for the national championship competition, a school's team must first win its state championship. During each competition, teams are divided into six groups of three or more students with each group focusing on a different Constitutional area of interest. These groups then present short speeches on their particular area of interest before a panel of judges which is followed by a question and answer period.

According to the Center for Civic Education, since 1987 more than 28 million students and 90 thousand educators have participated in this competition. East High School has gone to the national finals 19 times, placed in the top ten 16 times, the top three 8 times, and the top two 4 times. East High School has previously won the competition in 2007 and 1992.

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information contact Justin Hanson at (202) 226-2302.